The Method the Indians *in* Virginia *and* Carolina *uſe to Dreſs* Buck *and* Doe Skins ; *as it was communicated to the Royal Society by the Honourable Sir* Robert Southwell, *Knt. their Preſident.*

THE *Pelt* being taken off is firſt ſtreined by Lines, or otherwiſe, moſt like the Clothiers Racks, but for no other purpoſe but to dry them.

The Brains of the Deer, whether *Buck* or *Doe*, is taken out and meſled, and dawbed on Moſs or dryed Graſs, and then dryed in the Sun, or by a Fire to preſerve them.

When the Hunting time is over, the Women dreſs the Skins; firſt, by putting them in a Pond, or Hole of Water, to ſoak them well. Then they with an old Kniſe fixed in a Cleft-Stick, force off the Hair, whilſt they remain wet. The Hair being taken or forced off, they put as many Skins as they have made ſo ready, into a Kettle or Earthen Pot, and a proportion of the Deers Brains, before ſpoken of, into the Kettle with the Skins; and then put them over a Fire till they are more than Blood-warm; which will make them ladder and ſcour perfectly clean; which done, they with ſmall ſticks wreſt and twiſt each Skin as long as they find any Wet to drop from them, letting them remain ſo wreſted ſome Hours; and then they untwiſt each Skin, and put them into a ſort of a Rack, like a Clothiers Rack (which they fix at every place they come to, with no more Trouble than two ſmall Poles ſet upright, and two more put athwart, all fixed with their own Barcks,) and extend them every way by Lines, and as the Skin dries, ſo they with a dull Hatchet, or a Stick flatted, and brought

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brought to a round edge, or a Stone fitted by nature for that purpoſe, rub them all over to force all the Water and Greaſe out of them, till they become perfectly dry: which is all they do.

And one Woman will dreſs eight or ten Skins in a day; that is, begin and end them. I intimate this becauſe the Men never do it.

Obſervationes ponderis Teſtudinis terreſtris, cum in Autumno terram ſubiret, cum ejuſdem ex Terrâ Verno tempore exeuntis pondere comparati, per plures anos repetitæ: experimento celeberrimi D. D. *Georgii Ent*, Equitis, & M. D. & à Doctiſſimo D. D. *Rob. Pitt*, M. D. & R. S. S. communicatæ.

DIE ſeptimo Octobris, Anno 1651. *Teſtudinem meam appendi, priuſquam latibulum adiret, ibidem per totam Hyemem hybernatura, pendebatque exactè libras* 4. *unciáſque totidem minus drachma, nempe lib.* 4. *unc.* 3. *drach.* 7.

Die octavo Octobris 1652. *Erutam è terra Teſtudinem (nam ſe pridie humaverat) appendi denuo, ponderabatque lib.* 4. *unc.* 6. *& drach.* 1.

Die 16. *Martii* $165\frac{2}{3}$. *Teſtudo ſponte è latibulo ſuo prodiit. Pendebátque lib.* 4. *atque unc.* 4.

Die 4. *Octobris* 1653. *Teſtudo poſtquam per aliquot dies jejunaſſet, ſubtúſque terram ſeſe abſcondiſſet, inde educta atque appenſa ponderabat lib.* 4. *unc.* 5. *Oculi (quos diu clauſos habuerat) tum aperti plurimum madeſcebant.*

Die 18. *Martii.* $165\frac{3}{4}$. *Teſtudo è latebris prodiens & in lance appenſa ponderabat lib.* 4. *unc.* 4. *& drach.* 2.